



**MIAMI-DADE- COUNTY**

**2007 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE**



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**CRITICAL PRIORITIES**

**Airport EDS Baggage Integration:** SUPPORT \$20 million through Other Transaction Agreement (OTA) discretionary funding to reimburse MDAD for terminal modifications required for in-line explosive detection systems (EDS) at MIA.

**Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and Food and Drug Administration Staffing at Miami International Airport (MIA):** ADVOCATE for adequate Transportation Security Administration (TSA), Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and Food and Drug Administration staffing levels at MIA to ensure that neither processing times nor security are compromised.

**Opa-Locka Airport Air Traffic Control Tower:** SUPPORT \$4.2 million funding request for the replacement of Opa-Locka Air Traffic Control Tower.

**Interoperability:** SUPPORT \$12.6 million funding request for the strengthening of interoperability among agencies in the state and at the local level.

**Miami River Dredging:** SUPPORT \$26 million funding request for the final phase of the Miami River Dredging Project.

**Water Reuse:** SUPPORT \$20 million authorization for the development of a reuse transmission pipeline in South Miami-Dade County.

**Seaport Security Mandates:** SUPPORT efforts to assure that the federal government funds all federal seaport security mandates without impacting traditional seaport funding sources for capacity and other critical projects.

**Miami Harbor Channel Dredging WRDA Authorization:** SUPPORT authorization for 50-52 ft. dredging project, in the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA). SUPPORT revisions in WRDA related to mitigation associated with Phase II contractor violations.

**Miami Harbor Channel Phase III Dredging:** SUPPORT \$2 million funding request for preliminary engineering and design (PED) of the Phase III dredging.

**South Florida Regional Integrated Fare Collection System:** SUPPORT \$35 million funding request for a regional integrated fare collection system. Miami-Dade, Palm Beach, and Broward Counties, in conjunction with the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA).

**Metrorail Orange Line Expansion - North and East-West Corridors:** SUPPORT \$10 million funding request for Metrorail expansion – to be divided equally, \$5 million for the East-West and North Corridors Projects.

**Head Start Program Reauthorization:** SUPPORT changes in the reauthorization of the Head Start Program that will benefit children and families in Miami-Dade County that depend on the programs and services Head Start provides to needy families throughout the region.

**Comprehensive Immigration Reform:** SUPPORT immigration reform that would oppose the criminalization of immigrants. SUPPORT enforcement that is realistic and enforceable. SUPPORT efforts to combine effective and humane enforcement with wider legal channels for those seeking to enter our country.

**Beach Erosion Control:** SUPPORT \$7.5 million funding request to conduct ongoing periodic renourishment of eroded segments of the federally authorized Miami-Dade County Protection Project.

**Farm Bill Reauthorization:** SUPPORT changes to the farm bill that provides programmatic support and recognizes the needs of specialty crops grown in areas of South Miami-Dade and similar climates.

## **Critical Appropriations Requests for 2007**

### **Aviation**

Opa Locka Air Control Tower \$ 4.2 million

### **Enterprise Technology Services Department**

Interoperability \$12.6 million

### **Department of Environmental Resources Management**

Miami River Dredging \$26 million

### **Seaport**

Miami Harbor Dredging \$ 2 million

### **Transit**

South Florida Regional Transportation \$35 million

Orange Line \$10 million



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**Priorities listed in order of Department/Issue Area**

## **AGRICULTURE**

**Farm Bill Reauthorization:** SUPPORT changes to the farm bill that provides programmatic support and recognizes the needs of specialty crops grown in areas of South Miami-Dade and similar climates. The current farm bill is geared toward traditional program crops, such as grain and cattle. The nursery business has surpassed citrus as the number one cash crop in Florida. SUPPORT working with both the State Department of Agriculture, the United States Department of Agriculture, as well as farm groups from states with similar concerns to ensure that new provisions are included any future farm bill that will recognizing the needs of nursery, tropical fish, and tropical fruit industries. SUPPORT legislation that contains ethanol production which may include cellulosic biomass. With few exceptions, corn is the primary feedstock for U.S. ethanol production. Ethanol can also be made from other products such as grain sorghum (milo), wheat, barley, sugar cane or beets, cheese whey, and potatoes.

**Tree Canopy:** SUPPORT federal programs and incentives for tree planting. In 1996, Miami-Dade County was found to have only had a 10% tree cover, while 30% was the average in American cities and with the extensive damage having occurred after Hurricanes Katrina and Wilma in 2005, federal funding for tree planting that includes soil conservation, beautification, cooling, and reforestation is needed. Miami-Dade Parks and Recreation and the Community Image Manager both support this request.

**Agricultural Jobs and Farmworker Housing:** SUPPORT legislation that provides a path for experienced nursery and other farmworkers to earn the right to adjust to legal resident status. SUPPORT efforts to work with the federal government to provide permanent, hurricane resistant farmworker housing in agricultural areas of Miami-Dade County in light of the shortage of farmworker housing.

**Vegetative Disaster Debris:** SUPPORT efforts to change administrative regulations that will allow FEMA to provide fiscal reimbursement for local jurisdictions for mulch and/or compost vegetative disaster debris, in addition to the normal coverage of debris removal and disposal in declared disaster areas.

## **AVIATION**

**Airport EDS Baggage Integration:** SUPPORT \$20 million through Other Transaction Agreement (OTA) discretionary funding to reimburse MDAD for terminal modifications required to integrate explosive detection systems (EDS) in-line with Miami International Airport's (MIA) baggage handling systems in the South and North terminals. Congress has directed TSA to move all EDS in-line with airport baggage sorting systems but, to date; MIA has received only \$20 million in (OTA) funds. TSA has indicated that they will not be issuing letters of intent (LOI's) for this purpose until further notice, despite the fact that the federal government has mandated the installation of EDS in-line baggage systems. MDAD is responsible for the required local match of 25%.

**Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and Food and Drug Administration Staffing at Miami International Airport (MIA):** ADVOCATE for adequate Transportation Security Administration (TSA), Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and Food and Drug Administration staffing levels at security checkpoints, baggage screening operations and federal inspection stations at MIA to ensure that neither processing times nor security are compromised.

**Opa-Locka Airport Air Traffic Control Tower:** SUPPORT \$4.2 million funding request for the replacement of Opa-Locka Air Traffic Control Tower and pursue continued funding in FAA's Facilities and Equipment (F&E) account. The existing, permanent Opa-Locka Airport control tower is not economically feasible to repair. A temporary control tower has been installed, but a permanent replacement tower is critical for the continued availability of air traffic control services in South Florida as well as providing a base for lifesaving Coast Guard search and rescue operations.

**Extension of Runway 9R/27 at Kendall-Tamiami Executive Airport:** SUPPORT \$1 million funding request for the extension of the runway at the Kendall-Tamiami Executive Airport. The runway will be extended 550 feet at the east (27L) end and 1,798 feet at the west (9R) end. The proposed increase in runway length will allow aircrafts to increase their fuel and/or cargo load and allow them to arrive at destinations and markets that are currently unattainable without first having to land and refuel at other airports. This improvement would give pilots greater flexibility in meeting their stage length and payload requirements and allow for the accommodation of nearly 100 percent of midsize jet aircraft under wet runway conditions.

**International-to-International / Air Transit Program:** The Department of Homeland Security indicated in 2004 that they were developing a new program to formally replace the ITI and TWOV programs. The county has submitted comments to DHS regarding a new program called the Air Transit Program (ATP). While it is unclear when or if the ATP will be put into effect, aviation, in support of its airlines, asks the county to continue to ADVOCATE for the adoption and implementation of a program that will replace the former ITI/TWOV program.

**Unfunded Security Mandates and Cost Free Space:** SUPPORT efforts to assure that the federal government funds all federal airport security mandates without impacting traditional airport funding sources for capacity and other critical projects. This includes requests by the federal government to include space for federal agencies at no cost, checkpoint modifications, airfield access control for cargo, and elevated homeland security threat levels, which have a significant impact on airport operations.

**Machine Readable Passports (MRP) and U.S. VISIT Programs:** MONITOR the implementation of these new programs and work with major airlines to ensure that new rules and regulations do not cause undue congestion, increase delay, or compromise security. The exit portion of the US-VISIT program has only been initiated at a few, pilot airports. Efforts to roll-out the exit program to all airports with departing international passengers have been delayed due to technology and human resource issues.

**Grants, Reimbursements and General Funding:** SUPPORT efforts to secure grants and/or pilot programs for homeland security, environmental remediation, and technology upgrades impacting overall infrastructure and alternative fuels. SUPPORT full funding of the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) and other Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) programs. These programs fund critical capital and safety investments at airports nationwide.

**Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Reauthorization:** SUPPORT industry (AAAE, ACI-NA, FAC) goals for program funding levels and agency reorganization in new FAA reauthorization legislation. *VISION – 100*, the current FAA authorization legislation (P.L. 108-179), included \$3.7 billion for AIP and \$3.11 billion for Facilities and Equipment for FY 2007. In *Vision – 100*, the AIP account was increased \$100 million each year during the four-year authorization period. These programs fund critical capital and safety investments at airports nationwide. In 2006, MDAD received approximately \$18 million in entitlement and discretionary funding from FAA. SUPPORT FAA’s Contract Tower Program and the Airport Cooperative Research Program. The current authorization runs through FY 2007.

**Telecommunications Legislation:** OPPOSE efforts that would prohibit or limit government entities from providing wireless telecommunication services as it would undermine the safe and secure operation of wireless telecommunications services on airport property. The State of Florida passed legislation that contains an exemption allowing airports to provide such services on airport property, and MDAD supports any efforts to implement a similar exemption for airports should federal legislation be adopted prohibiting government entities from providing such service.

**Airport Department of Defense (DOD) Remediation:** SUPPORT efforts to direct the US Department of Defense to pay for damages arising out of subsurface contamination at Miami International Airport caused by the operations of the United States Air Force and its contractors at MIA from the World War II era through the Vietnam era. In the past, DOD has recognized that it is liable and responsible for at least some of the costs of responding to environmental contamination at and around MIA, however the US District Court for the Southern District of Florida has ruled against Miami-Dade County. Remediation may be in excess of \$500 million.

**Cuban American Pilots Association Monument:** Work with the FAA in establishing a monument at Kendall-Tamiami Executive Airport to honor the American and Cuban pilots killed in support of the Bay of Pigs initiative. The planned monument would consist of memorial landscaping surrounding a B-26B Bomber that has been transferred to the County's Aviation Department from the U.S. Air Force, and for which MDAD is responsible for storage and upkeep.

**Passenger Checkpoint Modifications:** SUPPORT funding for the estimated cost for modifications to passenger security checkpoints. MIA's existing passenger security checkpoints and planned checkpoints in the new South and North terminals require modifications to meet TSA operational standards. The security checkpoints are a federal responsibility, and TSA should reimburse MIA for 100% of the costs associated making the required modifications.

**Airfield Access Control:** SUPPORT greater funding for increased security measures for airfield access. Requirements for processing increased security clearances to accommodate new TSA airfield access control measures for cargo could have a significant impact on MIA cargo warehouse employees.

**TSA Security Checkpoint Exit Lane Staffing:** OPPOSE TSA's announced decision to no longer staff the exit points of the sterile concourses or the passenger screening checkpoints during non-operational periods. According to TSA, access control to the sterile concourses will be the responsibility of the airport operator. Recurring annual cost for posting personnel at these locations currently staffed by TSA is approximately \$700,000. TSA has to date delayed implementation of this policy at MIA.

**Unfunded Security Mandates and Cost Free Space:** SUPPORT efforts to assure that the federal government funds all federal airport security mandates without impacting traditional airport funding sources for capacity and other critical projects. This includes requests by the federal government to include space for federal agencies at no cost, checkpoint modifications, airfield access control for cargo, and elevated homeland security threat levels.

## **COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY**

**Head Start Program Reauthorization:** SUPPORT changes in the reauthorization of the Head Start Program that will benefit children and families in Miami-Dade County that depend on the programs and services Head Start provides to needy families throughout the region. These changes include ADVOCATING for the restoration of the full participation of parents in the shared decision-making process; establishing provisions for additional funding for the Head Start teachers as compensation for increased educational requirements; halting of the National Reporting System for testing of young children until a valid test is developed; elimination of legislative language advocating the re-competition of the Head Start grants and OPPOSING efforts changing the funding mechanism for Head Start/Early Head from direct funding by the Department of Health and Human Services to Block Grant funding by the state.

**Community Services Block Grant (CSBG):** ADVOCATE for increase CSBG funding in FY07-08. Previously the Administration proposed reducing CSBG funds which would ultimately result in a reduction of the State of Florida's overall allocation of CSBG funds, thereby lowering the amount of dollars allocated to Miami-Dade County. Increasing funding in the reauthorization supports the Community Action Agency (CAA) in expanding services to low-income families transitioning from public assistance. ADVOCATE changes in the national formula used for funding to States whose recipients are primarily Community Action Agencies. The unemployed, working poor, and families of Reservists called to extended duty are also receiving help from Community Action Agencies to make ends meet. The poverty levels and population in Miami-Dade County has increased in recent years yet national funding formulas have not been changed in years.

**Head Start/Early Head Start Facilities:** SUPPORT \$750,000 funding request to construct a Head Start/Early Head Start facility to house the needs of families and children. While the Community Action Agency's Head Start division has the necessary programming and service dollars, it needs additional facilities to serve the community and requires an increase in delivery of Head Start services for poor children from birth to age 5 and their families.

**Corporation for National Services and Older Americans Act:** SUPPORT efforts to continue funding the Corporation for National Services, enhancing the quality of life of our elders and avoiding premature institutionalization including funding for meals for the elderly, adult day care, elderly transportation and adult home care.

**Social Security Program:** SUPPORT preserving overall Social Security program while ensuring current levels of benefits in the coming future beyond 2032.

## **OFFICE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (OCED)**

**Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)** – ADVOCATE preserving the Community Development Block Grant Program within the Department of Housing and Urban Development and maintaining or increasing current levels of funding. The CDBG program's primary objective is to assist in the development of viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and to expand economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate income. Miami-Dade County allocates \$22 million annually to fund a wide variety of CDBG eligible programs, projects and activities that address the needs of underdeveloped and underserved areas, and which are targeted to meet the needs of very low and moderate income persons.

## **COMMUNITY RELATIONS BOARD**

### **IMMIGRATION**

**Comprehensive Immigration Reform:** SUPPORT immigration reform that would oppose the criminalization of immigrants. SUPPORT enforcement that is realistic and enforceable.

SUPPORT efforts to combine effective and humane enforcement with wider legal channels for those seeking to enter our country.

**Pathway to Citizenship:** SUPPORT legislation that would provide opportunities for immigrants currently living in the US, who want to settle in the US, to apply for permanent residence and citizenship. SUPPORT federal funding for resettlement of refugees.

**Access to Education and Health Care:** SUPPORT the Dream Act which permits some immigrant students who have grown up in the US to apply for temporary legal status and eventually obtain permanent status. This legislation would make these students eligible for citizenship by meeting certain conditions. OPPOSE federal provisions that discourage States from providing in-state tuition without regard to immigration status. ADVOCATE for extension of the authorization of Federal reimbursement for hospitals that provide emergency care to undocumented immigrants.

**Immigrant Employment and Worker Protection:** SUPPORT the creation of a worker visa program that adequately protects the wages and working conditions of US and immigrant workers.

**Temporary Protective Status:** SUPPORT Temporary Protective Status (TPS) for Haitian and other immigrants/asylum seekers who are in Miami-Dade County and face deportation. TPS was established to provide temporary protection to immigrants/asylum seekers that are unable to return to their homelands because of serious ongoing-armed conflict, political unrest, or natural disasters.

## **CONSUMER SERVICES**

**Telecommunications:** MONITOR legislation that would have an effect on the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Telecommunications Act, specifically bills that contain language that preempt federal/state/ local government's ability to consider consumer protection issues and customer service laws.

**Fair Credit Reporting** - Oppose proposed federal legislation similar to H.R. 3997, the Financial Data Protection Act, which would amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to provide for supposed secure financial data. Provisions in this proposed federal legislation would not allow consumers who are not the victims of an identity theft to freeze their credit reports for identity theft prevention and further, would weaken existing state laws that require consumers to be notified when a company experiences a security breach

**Regulated Industries:** MONITOR legislation that affects the following County regulated industries: motor vehicle repair; moving; locksmith; wrecker; vehicle immobilization; motor vehicle title loan and general consumer protection; and, for-hire transportation vehicles, including taxicabs, limousines and ambulance service.

## **OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (OEM)**

**Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI):** ADVOCATE change in UASI designation to include Miami-Dade County as a named city based on Miami-Dade’s unique role under the Miami-Dade County Home Rule Charter as the “municipal government of the unincorporated areas of Dade County.” Miami-Dade County unincorporated area has a population of 1.2 million residents. Under the charter of Miami-Dade County, the County is deemed a municipal government. Belcher Oil Co. v. Dade County, 271 So.2d 118 (Fla.1972). This designation change is needed so that the entire geographical area of unincorporated Miami-Dade County and its associated risk will be calculated in DHS’s risk assessment of the Miami UASI. The DHS risk assessment determines the funding potential of the Miami UASI.

**Hazard Mitigation Funding:** SUPPORT legislation to increase funding for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) and Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program (PDM). SUPPORT legislation that requires the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) to return to 15 percent (currently only 7.5 percent) of the aggregate cost of a particular disaster.

## **ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES DEPARTMENT (ETSD)**

**Interoperability:** SUPPORT \$37.6 million funding request for the strengthening of interoperability among agencies in the state and at the local level. Miami-Dade County presently can communicate via a console patch connection with seventy-three local and state agencies as well as nine federal agencies that interoperate with the County’s radio system. The county has adopted the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) definitions to assess the six different levels of interoperability throughout the state.

However in order for Miami-Dade County to move into the future and bridge the communication interoperability gap, it must make investments in providing for the foundation for open and unfettered radio communication systems. These investments include the following:

- a. Radio Interoperability Gateways to allow for rapid incorporation of new entrants to the Miami-Dade County interoperable community. \$1.2 million
- b. Move towards open-standards based radio communication systems (Project 25) to allow for improved local and regional interoperable communications. \$25 million
- c. Continue to improve current and future radio systems infrastructure to ensure the availability of the systems when most needed. \$3.6 million
- d. Invest in the use of mobile and portal communications capability to expand the current area of coverage in support of tactical and multi-jurisdictional operations. \$1.8 million
- e. Have readily available a cache of radios for use of outside state and federal agencies to leverage Miami-Dade County existing interoperability capabilities. \$6 million

## **DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT (DERM)**

**Miami River Dredging:** SUPPORT \$26 million funding request for the final phase of the Miami River Dredging Project to restore authorized depth and width to the navigation channel. ADVOCATE for changes to the proviso language in the Authorization Bill for the project to allow for advance of funds by the County to make up for possible shortfalls in Federal appropriations needed to complete this project.

**Beach Erosion Control:** SUPPORT \$3.5 million funding request to conduct ongoing periodic renourishment of eroded segments of the federally authorized Miami-Dade County Shore Protection Project and provide storm damage reduction to upland properties and infrastructure. President Bush's 2006 budget zeros out beach renourishment in Florida. SUPPORT statewide efforts to restore federal funding for beach renourishment.

**Non-Domestic Sand Sources:** SUPPORT language that modifies or eliminates restrictive language in the 1986 Water Resources Development Act which prohibits the use of federal funds to procure non-domestic sand sources for beach renourishment.

**Biscayne Bay Water Quality Assessment Model:** SUPPORT \$500,000 funding request for a series of predictive numerical models designed to assist resource managers by mimicking the hydrodynamics, water quality and ecology in Biscayne Bay in response to proposed changes in land use and freshwater distribution. This project is an essential element in the development of the integrated area-wide land use and water management plan for the south Miami-Dade County watershed required in Policy 11.G of the County's Comprehensive Development Master Plan.

**Everglades Restoration:** SUPPORT working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the South Florida Water Management District to ensure the full federal funding and complete implementation of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP).

## **FIRE RESCUE**

**Fire Rescue Vessel (Fire Boat "South"):** SUPPORT \$2.1 million funding request for a 36 foot fire boat with EMS capacity for multiple survivors, training crew, fire protection equipment and fire fighting equipment. Currently, there is no maritime fire protection or Emergency Medical Response from a certified agency in the South end of Miami-Dade County. The area is vast in size and encompasses sites vulnerable to terrorist acts such as Biscayne National Park and the Turkey Point Nuclear Power Plant. Additionally, there are many structures on Elliot Key which house Park employees and their families. There is no fire protection on Elliot Key. There is a limited EMS response provided by the Park Rangers and Police.

**Wild Fire and Training Support Helicopter:** SUPPORT \$2.5 million funding request for an aircraft that will be dedicated to the quick attack of wild fires, brush fires, and will be utilized for training. This aircraft will also be used to aid in response to natural disasters or Homeland Security response. Additionally, this unit will also provide EMS response as well

as Search and Rescue hoisting operations. SUPPORT innovative approaches to funding this project, including applying for excess surplus federal property.

## **HOMELESS TRUST**

**Homeless Trust Airbase Property:** SUPPORT efforts to receive permission for HHS to provide permanent supportive housing, as per a recent change in HHS regulations which will allow for expanded housing uses on property adjacent to Homestead Air Force Reserve Base. Current estimates of unmet needs for permanent supportive housing are 2247 beds and unmet needs for affordable/workforce housing in Miami-Dade County is estimated to be 144,000 units. SUPPORT efforts to modifying deed restrictions that hinder the county from meeting the aforementioned needs and SUPPORT efforts to work with HHS towards treating the issue of compliance with deed restrictions be treated in a discretionary manner, with no fines imposed.

## **HOUSING**

**HOPE VI Program:** SUPPORT the reauthorization of the HOPE VI program. Miami-Dade County is the recipient of two grants under the HOPE VI program for public housing. The HOPE VI Program, originally known as the Urban Revitalization Demonstration (URD), was developed as a result of recommendations by the National Commission on Severely Distressed Public Housing, which was charged with proposing a National Action Plan to eradicate severely distressed public housing. The Commission recommended revitalization in three general areas: physical improvements, management improvements, and social and community services to address resident needs.

**Public Housing Programs:** MONITOR USHUD Asset Management methodology for determining level of subsidy for public housing programs. USHUD will be implementing the Asset Management methodology at the beginning of calendar year 2007. The new funding formula will determine the portion of available dollars each housing agency will receive. ADVOCATE: for the impletation of funding under the new methodology to be realized in CY 2007 and 2008.

**Section 8 Vouchers:** ADVOCATE for additional flexibility in Housing Choice Voucher Program that would include easing of annual inspection requirements to occur biennially or periodically, establish flat/tiered rents or rent flexibility and eliminate the requirement of recertification of elderly units each year. ADVOCATE for increased funding for Section 8 administrative costs that have been reduced over a period of years and have not kept pace with rising cost of running the program.

**Property Insurance Cost:** SUPPORT 100% funding request to MDHA to cover the increased cost of property insurance that occur in storm impacted regions. Insurance premiums for PHAs in storm impacted regions, such as South Florida, have increased significantly in the past year.

**Elderly Housing:** SUPPORT funding for affordable elderly housing in Miami-Dade County. Miami-Dade County faces a shortfall of housing affordable to the ever growing population of seniors. The elderly, as a class, face forms of distress other than medical or

financial, such as the need for suitable housing and an overall environment conducive to dignity and independence.

**Workforce Development Housing:** SUPPORT seeking funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to pursue innovative housing programs that promote the construction and development of workforce housing for Miami-Dade County residents who do not qualify for low income housing but are increasingly unable to afford housing due to double digit growth in the cost of housing locally. SUPPORT legislation that would allow homebuilders and investors a general business tax credit for building or substantially rehabilitating residences for low and moderate-income individuals in certain areas. Affordable workforce housing is an issue of concern with both the Administration and our Congressional Delegation, and Miami-Dade County could be a viable place for a pilot program that can be replicated nationwide.

**Housing Opportunities for Persons Living With AIDS (HOPWA)** – SUPPORT efforts in Congress to fund HOPWA at \$385 million in FY07. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that 800,000 to 900,000 persons are living in the United States with a diagnosis of HIV or AIDS. Further, it is estimated that 22,000 people in Miami-Dade County are living with the disease. These individuals, many of which are poor, will be directly impacted by any budget cuts, and could face homelessness without the assistance of HOPWA or some other form of housing assistance.

**Utility Allowance Schedule for Public Housing:** ADVOCATE changes in regulations to include the application of air conditioning to Public Housing utility allowance schedule. Currently, tenants living in a public housing project are not given a utility allowance to cover air conditioning even though tenants in the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program are given a utility allowance for air conditioning.

## **JUVENILE, HEALTH, AND SOCIAL SERVICES**

**Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC) National Demonstration Project:** SUPPORT \$300,000 request for the continuation of funding for JAC National Demonstration Project.

**Ryan White AIDS Funding:** SUPPORT increased funding for the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Relief Grant Program. There is an increased need for HIV/AIDS services, nationally and locally, primarily due to higher rates of HIV infection among indigent populations and longer life spans among people living with AIDS.

**Pandemic Avian Flu - Secure National Stockpile Medications:** SUPPORT increased funding to Florida State Health Department agencies to deal with issues related to the stockpile of medications and threats such as a pandemic flu.

## **LIBRARY**

ADVOCATE for federal funding to libraries through the State of Florida be increased or maintained at current levels. Most funding to libraries is issued through formula based grants.

## **MILITARY INFRASTRUCTURE**

**Homeland Security Regional Complex:** SUPPORT efforts to secure the placement of a regional DHS facility in Miami-Dade County. Our community is a credible target for terrorist activities and placing a regional office in Miami-Dade County will greatly augment the significant investment already made by the DHS. This will ensure Florida's largest metropolitan area has the mobilization and deployment resources available to coordinate with federal and state officials in the event of a terrorist attack or other crisis. SUPPORT efforts to attract additional DHS/FEMA resources to facilitate the Nation's homeland security – emergency preparedness responsibilities, including making the hanger at adjacent county owned land in Homestead a permanent FEMA staging facility. The County has existing capacity to house additional federal assets at land adjacent to Homestead Air Reserve Base – which is perfect for receiving, staging and integrating resources that could assist federal disaster response and training.

**Homestead Air Reserve Base Interagency Coordination:** COORDINATE with the Department of Defense and Department of Homeland Security to accommodate further interagency functions at Homestead Air Force Reserve Base, including working with the Coast Guard in relocating Metro Zoo facility at Homestead Air Force Reserve Base. Increase the military units located at Homestead Air Force Reserve Base, using the relocation of the Special Operations Command South (SOCSOUTH) as a model. SUPPORT efforts to replace and upgrade infrastructure that no longer meets regulatory requirements and continues to deteriorate due to lack of maintenance funding and neglect that occurred over the past decade. This coordination will make the land readily available for interagency, military or Homeland Security uses.

**SOUTHCOM:** PROMOTE the retention of the U.S. Southern Command (SOUTHCOM) in Miami-Dade County. SUPPORT the state's efforts to make permanent the venue of the U.S. Southern Command in Miami-Dade County.

## **PARKS AND RECREATION**

**Ludlum Trail:** SUPPORT \$500,000 funding request for the acquisition and construction of the Ludlum Trail. This trail is a proposed seven mile bicycle pedestrian trail along the FEC Railroad corridor, between SW 72<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and SW 67<sup>th</sup> Avenue from State Road 5/US1/SW Dixie Highway to NW 12<sup>th</sup> Street. The FEC railway corridor is one of the last remaining open space corridors in the County. This project will create a trail for bicyclists and walkers. It will be used for transportation and recreation purposes.

**Parks Open Space Master Plan:** SUPPORT \$500,000 request to develop an Open Space Master Plan to guide future park development. It will survey all open space that can provide passive and active recreational opportunities, including Federal/State and local government

owned parks, public schools, environmentally endangered areas, utility right of ways and easements.

**Transportation Enhancement Programs:** SUPPORT efforts for continued funding of the Transportation Enhancement Programs. Miami-Dade County Parks and Recreation Department has received numerous grants through this program which has funded such projects as the Greenway Signage and Demonstration Project, three greenway bridges, South Dade Greenways Network, and Black Creek and Biscayne Trails.

**Fit to Play Program – Health & Fitness:** SUPPORT \$174,750 funding request for the enhancement of Miami-Dade County Parks and Recreation Fit to Play Program. MDPR is integrating a nutrition component to the comprehensive Fit to Play Program. By teaching kids the importance of identifying healthy food choices will thereby effectively reduce obesity in our children. Computer and PC equipment is needed to test each kid and provide meaningful data proving that kids are healthier after the program than before. SUPPORT working with federal agencies such as the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and National Institute of Health (NIH) for possible programmatic funding of our parks programs that promote healthier children and assist in the reduction of obesity among American youth, an issue of concern in both the Administration and Congress.

**Invasive Species:** SUPPORT federal efforts to remove exotic plants that invade natural areas seriously disrupt the natural processes of forest growth, storm recovery, and natural fire cycles. Before Hurricane Andrew, Miami-Dade's forests were in decline due to excessive invasion by over 120 species of exotic plants. Since Hurricane Andrew, over \$7.5 million dollars has been spent in Miami-Dade's parks in the removal of exotic plants. The Miami-Dade Park & Recreation Department has the largest and most progressive natural areas management program of any local government in the State of Florida, but funds are limited and exotic plants continue to invade our natural areas due to our urban and agricultural landscape from which exotic plants easily escape.

## **POLICE**

**Operation Safe Port:** SUPPORT request to fund the Miami-Dade Police Department Underwater Recovery/Homeland Security Units to conduct hull searches on vessels entering the port. Searches are utilized in order to locate explosive devices attached to a ship's hull as well as any other potential threat to the safety of passengers and port workers at the Port of Miami. Contraband of any kind is also targeted for removal and confiscation by police divers who conduct searches at the request of the Coast Guard but are not reimbursed or paid with federal funds. The Port of Miami contributes over \$12 billion annually to the economy of South Florida.

**Local Law Enforcement Block Grant and Byrne Grant:** SUPPORT maintaining and/or increasing Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG) and the Byrne Grant. These funding sources have been decreasing in recent years and are an important federal funding source for communities such as Miami-Dade County.

**Crime Lab Enhancements:** SUPPORT the maintenance and an increased level of funding for grant programs such as the DNA Backlog Grants and the Paul Coverdell Grants.

## **PROCUREMENT**

**Repeal of Section 511:** SUPPORT repeal of Section 511, which will require Counties, such as ours, with annual spending over \$100 million, to deduct 3% from payments made to vendors. Miami Dade County is a large entity and has negotiated contracts with its vendors with small profit margins. Imposition of this federal 3% withholding tax will impact the County's ability to obtain the lowest possible pricing for the goods and services purchased for the public's funds. This legislation, which would go into effect in 2011, would mean that County would have to absorb an annual increase in the cost of goods and services in excess of \$27 million.

**Federal Procurement:** SUPPORT legislation to allow local jurisdictions access to federal GSA contracts. Current law does not allow for non-federal agencies, such as Miami-Dade County, access to contracts for goods and services established by the federal government, which makes procurement for local governments significantly less cost effective.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

**Rickenbacker Bridge:** SUPPORT \$4.2 million for structural and expansion joint repairs on the Causeway. Structural repairs are required on the underside of all the Causeway's concrete bridge structures. The steel rebar incased within the concrete bridges has deteriorated (rusted) causing the concrete to fall off, exposing rebar to the elements and weakening the structure. The West Bridge, William Powell Bridge and Bear Cut Bridge are in need of expansion joint repairs. The bridges are the only transportation gateway for the island residents of Village of Key Biscayne.

**Mosquito Control:** SUPPORT efforts to fund county-wide storm drain treatments to eliminate mosquitoes and prevent the spread of disease. There is an estimated 125,000 storm drains that breed mosquitoes year round in Miami-Dade County. Spraying storm drains is a pro-active approach to reduce annoyance by mosquitoes, and to minimize the incidence of mosquito transmitted Disease such as West Nile and St. Louis Encephalitis.

## **SEAPORT**

**Seaport Security Mandates:** SUPPORT efforts to assure that the federal government funds all federal seaport security mandates without impacting traditional seaport funding sources for capacity and other critical projects. Additional funding is required to maintain the present and future heightened security levels that will be required to assure that passengers and cargo are efficiently processed and to assist with the landside and waterside security requirements currently demanded of ports. SUPPORT funding increases to budgets of federal agencies with operations at the Port of Miami; primarily for more officers to provide passenger safety and to assist in expeditiously and efficiently processing of passengers and

cargo. MONITOR implementation of the **Maritime Transportation Security Act (MTSA) and similar** legislation that would change or create regulations that would impact security operations at the Port of Miami through the MTSA.

**Miami Harbor Channel Dredging WRDA Authorization:** SUPPORT authorization for 50-52 ft. dredging project, in the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA). SUPPORT revision in WRDA that would clearly authorize federal cost sharing in mitigation associated with Phase II contractor impacts to natural resources within the Federal Harbor Project. SUPPORT appropriation request for mitigation reimbursement involving contractor violation during Miami Harbor Channel Dredging – 42-ft and 36-ft projects.

**Miami Harbor Channel Phase III Dredging:** SUPPORT \$2 million funding request for preliminary engineering and design (PED) of the Phase III dredging. SUPPORT efforts to secure appropriations and/or reprogrammed funds to include outstanding needs for Phase II dredging, for Phase III PED and additional dredging needs subsequently identified by the US Army Corps of Engineers.

**Port of Miami Tunnel - Intermodal Capability:** ADVOCATE for legislation that would fund improvements of Intermodal capabilities and capacity of the Seaport to highway connectivity corridors. SUPPORT working with the federal Department of Transportation to include a tunnel or other viable means to ease congestion at the Port of Miami. SUPPORT legislation that would help eliminate congestion, increase intermodal capacity, to include a proposed tunnel link to the port.

**Cruise Ships:** SUPPORT legislation to amend the Passenger Vessel Services Act of 1886 and permit, under specific and limited circumstances, the operation of foreign built cruise vessels already operating in other markets to operate in the U.S. domestic cruise trades.

**Harbor Maintenance Tax:** SUPPORT and Monitor legislation that would repeal the Harbor Maintenance Tax and authorize general revenues to pay for the federal cost of operating and maintaining the nation's harbors. Oppose any user fee which may be proposed as an alternative to the current financing mechanism. Such fee imposed would greatly impact the already overburdened industry.

**Water Resources Development Act:** SUPPORT language in legislation for port industry-identified refinements to the Act. These changes will have direct benefits for the industry and for the Miami-Dade County Seaport Department by increasing federal responsibility and cost-sharing in a number of areas.

## **SOLID WASTE**

**Market Incentives for Electricity Produced from Renewable Resources:** ADVOCATE for legislation designating biomass (both Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) incineration and methane gas recovery) as a “qualified energy resource”, eligible for any and all market incentives including but not limited to 1) establishment of a renewable portfolio standard (RPS), 2) establishment of a renewable energy tradable credits program, 3) expansion of the existing Section 45 tax credits to include biomass and to provide that public sector entities share in a like benefit through creation of a refundable production and investment tax credit, 4) participation in “green pricing” program or other similar incentives. Such incentive provisions will aid in providing for financial stability of local governments’ solid waste management programs. This in turn will provide greater flexibility to local governments in delivering a higher level of service to the community, adding environmental enhancement initiatives, reducing fees or a combination thereof.

**Energy Market Restructuring:** SUPPORT and language that would encourage the development and operation of alternative and renewable sources of power in a manner that is consistent with PURPA. ADVOCATE for any definition for “renewable energy” used which includes power generated from biomass (specified to include municipal solid waste and landfill methane gas recovery), and for the position that renewable power should be eligible for any and all compensation in accord with the significant benefits produced (reduced import of fossil fuels, reduced trade gap, increased national energy independence, reduced greenhouse gas emissions, etc.) in excess of the value of the energy. ADVOCATE for net metering.

**Flow Control/Interstate Waste Transport:** SUPPORT legislation restoring state/local authority over receipt of waste from outside the jurisdiction or region and, in parallel, flow control authority over locally generated waste.

**Power Plant Emission Reductions:** ADVOCATE for equitable treatment for Waste-to-Energy Facilities as it relates to the provision of any anticipated air pollution reduction legislation requiring that “power generating” facilities achieve certain reductions in air pollutants. An equity provision is sought due to the fact that previous emission reduction proposals constituted a redundant requirement, given WTE facilities have already complied with comparable provisions of the Clean Air Act.

**Used Electronics Waste Stream:** SUPPORT any legislation promoting the concept of diverting used electronics from disposal, both for the purposes of increasing recycling and diverting any and all possible sources of environmental contamination to meet highest environmental standard at the most reasonable cost. OPPOSE any pending regulations that would place a disproportionate share of the responsibility (in terms of operations, funding and potential sanctions) on local governments. MDSW is operating a used electronics recycling program without any funding from any other parties. Program costs approximate \$200 per ton. DSWM rate payers should not be the sole party burdened with this cost and responsibility; it should be shared by all of the stakeholders, including manufacturers, retailers and users.

**OSHA Ergonomics Rule:** ADVOCATE for the solid waste industry to be granted an exemption from the requirements of OSHA's proposed "ergonomics" rule (64 Fed. Reg. 65768, 65787-88) (Nov. 23, 1999), pending completion of the appropriate industry-specific study. While in March, 2001, the President and the Congress signed a joint resolution repealing the regulations, OSHA retains the authority to cite employers under the General Duty Clause (Section 5(a) (1) of the OSHA Act) and may issue new regulations in the coming year. The intent of the OSHA ergonomics rule was to reduce the number of repetitive stress injuries incurred on the job. While the MDSW supports efforts to reduce worker injuries, these particular regulations do not adequately deal with solid waste-related issues specifically current collection hazards.

## **SUPER BOWL**

**Super Bowl Funding:** Request federal funding due to increased homeland security costs attributed to required Department of Homeland Security requirements and ongoing Orange Alert status for Miami-Dade County. In order to ensure that local, state and federal security efforts are not duplicated, new interoperability programs are included in this year's Super Bowl. Increased interoperability includes an Intelligence Operations Center and Joint Operations Center at a cost of \$208,988.86. Additionally, specialized new programs are being implemented at this year's Super Bowl including X-Ray Detail, Visiting Law Enforcement, Critical Incident Management Unit, Credentialing, Crime Scene, and Specialized Enforcement. All of these necessary security details come at a cost of \$479,079.68. Finally, overall security and management has increased at a cost of \$101,287.60 compared to the 1999 costs. These costs include increases in Marine Patrol, Team Security, and the Joint Information Center. Federal funding is a necessity in this year's Super Bowl as the cost escalation is evident. In 1999, when the last Super Bowl was held at Pro Player Stadium, costs were significantly less and thereby covered by the County. In 1999, total costs remained at \$821,647 whereas present costs are estimated at \$3,032,444.40. The county has already committed over \$4 million for in-kind contributions, and would like to work with the federal government to identify federal assistance that could assist defraying security related costs.

## **TRANSIT**

**Metrorail Orange Line Expansion - North and East-West Corridors:** SUPPORT \$5 million funding request to be used for preliminary engineering on the Miami-Dade County East-West Corridor Rapid Transit Project. SUPPORT \$5 million funding request to be used for final design on the Miami-Dade North Corridor Rapid Transit Project.

**South Florida Regional Integrated Fare Collection System:** SUPPORT \$35 million funding request for a regional integrated fare collection system. Miami-Dade, Palm Beach, and Broward Counties, under the lead of the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA) have agreed to procure a common fare collection system that will make regional travel seamless, cost effective and convenient. An integrated system will ensure compatibility of fare equipment and technology, standardize fare media price and policies, and reduce travel barriers.

**Bus Procurement:** SUPPORT \$3 million funding request of discretionary Federal Bus and Bus-Related funds to enhance current levels of service to meet growing transportation demand, increasing bus routes and improving service frequencies. The purchase of additional buses will have an important collective impact on Miami-Dade County's ability to decrease congestion and promote intermodal linkages for passengers throughout the South Florida region.

**7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Transit Hub:** SUPPORT \$2 million funding request to construct a transit hub at the intersection of NW 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue and NW 62<sup>nd</sup> Street which will provide access for commuters to and from the Liberty City area as well as a focal point for economic development. This project will enable the County to develop a mixed-use activity center to meet the transit needs of the community and provide connectivity between Miami-Dade and Broward Counties, serving several municipalities.

**Metrorail Vehicles Mid-Life Rehabilitation:** SUPPORT \$30 million funding request for the comprehensive mid-life rehabilitation of Miami-Dade County's Metrorail fleet. The current Metrorail fleet of 136 vehicles was placed in service in 1984. The rehabilitation will include the upgrade of all 13 sub- systems and decrease maintenance and overall rail car failure rate. The rehabilitation is imperative to improve fleet reliability.

**Transit Security and Surveillance System:** SUPPORT \$5 million funding request to enhance and install security and surveillance systems in transit properties and vehicles. The enhancements include: installation of real-time surveillance and recording system throughout; transit operations and maintenance facilities, rail/mover and fleet and rail/mover and bus stations, razor wire and security sensor fencing on the perimeter of facilities, access gate identification cards and coded proximity cards to secure access to critical areas and explosive resistant containers.

**US-1 Pedestrian Overpasses:** SUPPORT efforts to jointly fund additional overpasses over US-1 at the University of Miami Metrorail Stations. This project will enhance safe access to Metrorail stations at a station where the recent death of student crossing US-1 has raised safety concerns.

## **WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT**

**Water Reuse:** SUPPORT \$20 million authorization for the development of a reuse transmission pipeline in South Miami-Dade County. Miami-Dade Water and Sewer Department will use such a line to supplement water supply for various users in the southern part of the County, including industrial and potential agricultural users. Positive effects will include helping to conserve water in Miami-Dade County and protecting critical natural resources such as the Everglades and Biscayne Bay.

**Water/Waste Water Infrastructure Financing:** SUPPORT Congressional action which makes available funding in the form of grants or loans to meet the growing demand on the Department's water and sewer systems. SUPPORT any Congressional action which would amend the manner in which State Revolving Funds are allocated to the States, to the extent the amendment would provide greater amounts of funding to the State of Florida.

**Environmental Protection Agency Policy on Blending:** SUPPORT action to ensure that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) maintain its policy of allowing utilities to blend peak excess flow with fully treated wastewater during periods of wet weather and to specifically include this policy in EPA rules. Without this protection, the County could be open to unfair enforcement actions at both the federal and state levels. A policy prohibiting blending would cost millions and not be a cost effective means to handle excess flow.

**Florida Area Coastal Environment (FACE) Initiative:** SUPPORT \$1 million funding request as well as advocate for legislative and administrative action for the implementation of directives set forth by the FACE initiative, a comprehensive study of sources of nutrients in the coastal ocean and their effects on ocean reefs.

**Chemical Facilities Security:** MONITOR legislation or Department of Homeland Security regulations that address security at the nation's chemical plants that may be vulnerable to terrorist attack. Any changes in the manner that chemical facilities have to prepare and anticipate terrorism can carry significant costs burdens to the Department and to consumers.

**Floridan Aquifer Study:** SUPPORT \$300,000 to study the Floridan Aquifer. This study will be the first county-wide study of the Floridan aquifer which could possibly serve as a future water source for the growing needs of Miami-Dade County.

**Water/Wastewater Legislation:** SUPPORT legislation that would authorize or appropriate funding for Water and Wastewater infrastructure and security needs. OPPOSE any efforts to cease the reduction of funding for critical grant programs and other funding sources.

**Pilot Pump Stations Protection Program:** SUPPORT a pilot program that would protect the pump stations during significant weather events such as hurricanes and flash floods by deploying additional portable pumps to the Water and Sewer Department Divisions (WASD).

## 2007 APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS

<u>Department &amp; Program</u>	<u>Appropriations Bill</u>	<u>ACM Request</u>
<b>Aviation</b>		
Airport EDS Baggage Integration	<i>Homeland</i>	\$20 million
Extension of Runway 9R/27 at Kendall-Tamiami Executive Airport	<i>Transportation</i>	\$1 million
Opa-Locka Airport Air Traffic Control Tower	<i>Transportation</i>	\$4.2 million
<b>Community Action Agency</b>		
Head Start/Early Head Start Facilities	<i>Labor HHS</i>	\$750,000
<b>Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM)</b>		
Beach Erosion Control	<i>E&amp;W</i>	\$3.5 million
Miami River Dredging	<i>E&amp;W</i>	\$26 million
Biscayne Bay Water Quality Assessment Model	<i>E&amp;W</i>	\$500,000
<b>ETSD</b>		
Interoperability	<i>Homeland</i>	\$37.6 million
Fire Rescue		
Fire Rescue Vessel	<i>Homeland</i>	\$2.1 million
Support Helicopter	<i>Homeland</i>	\$2.5 million
Juvenile Services Demonstration Project	<i>CJS</i>	\$300,000
<b>Parks and Recreation</b>		
Fit to Play	<i>Agriculture</i>	\$174,750
Ludlum Trail	<i>Transportation</i>	\$500,000
Parks Open Space Master Plan	<i>Interior</i>	\$500,000
<b>Public Works</b>		
Mosquito Control Airplane	<i>Agriculture</i>	\$1 million
Rickenbacker Bridges	<i>Transportation</i>	\$4.2 million

**Seaport**

Miami Harbor Channel Dredging Project	<i>E&amp;W</i>	\$2 million
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**Transit**

7 <sup>th</sup> Avenue Transit Hub	<i>Transportation</i>	\$2 million
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Bus Procurement	<i>Transportation</i>	\$3 million
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Metrorail Orange Line Expansion –North & East/West Corridors	<i>Transportation</i>	\$10 million
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Metrorail Vehicles Mid-Life Rehabilitation	<i>Transportation</i>	\$10 million
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South Florida Regional Integrated Fare Collection System	<i>Transportation</i>	\$35 million
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Transit Security and Surveillance System	<i>Homeland</i>	\$5 million
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**Water and Sewer Department**

Florida Area Coastal Environment (FACE) Initiative	<i>E&amp;W</i>	\$1 million
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Miami-Dade County Wide Floridian Study	<i>Interior</i>	\$300,000
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<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$173,124,750</b>
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